

Appl. No. : 09/938,706
Filed : August 23, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-7 without prejudice and add Claim 8 as follows:

1-7 (Canceled)

8. (New) An article of manufacture comprising:

a) a water and salt permeable, porous biodegradable blind end tube having an interior surface,

b) matrix components coating said interior surface capable of promoting the formation of a polarized monolayer of salivary gland epithelial cells, and

c) a polarized monolayer of salivary gland epithelial cells, said salivary gland epithelial cells disposed on said interior surface and having a phenotype in which said salivary gland epithelial cells express or are transduced to express a water channel protein and ion transport protein so that water and salt is secreted unidirectionally.